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DEVICE FOR DRYING OBJECTS**CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS**

This application is a continuation in part of U.S. patent application Ser. No: 09/568,915 filed on May 11, 2000, now U.S. Pat. No. 6,357,605; and U.S. patent application Ser. No. 09/757,216 Filed on Jan. 9, 2001 wherein priority is claimed under 35 U.S.C. §120 and wherein these applications are incorporated herein by reference.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION**Field of the Invention**

The invention relates to a device for supporting objects for drying. More particularly, this invention relates to an adjustable device that is designed to allow plates, pots, kitchen utensils and silverware to dry.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The invention relates to a device for supporting objects for drying. This device contains a catch basin, for receiving water that drips off of these drying objects. Attached to the catch basin is a multi-piece rack. This horizontal rack has a front end and a back end wherein the back end is rotatably supported within the catch basin. In addition, there is also a complementary rack that is rotatably attached to the catch basin. Both the rack and the complementary rack contain a series of parallel extending slats that are spaced apart from each other to receive a plate there between. The slats are spaced far enough apart so that they allow water to drip down through the bars and into the catch basin.

In addition, coupled to each piece of the multi-piece rack are U-shaped legs. These legs are for rotatably adjusting the height of the front end of this rack. Furthermore, disposed within the catch basin is a series of support strips or tabs wherein the support tabs are designed to support the legs in a particular position to keep these legs from rotating when the support bar is supporting the rack.

This device is also designed to prevent any water or other materials from flowing onto a counter top outside of the catch basin. For example, when in use, the catch basin contains a series of substantially vertical walls to trap this water within the catch basin. In this way, the water will not flow outside of the catch basin and onto a counter top. However, there are at least two drainage holes disposed within the substantially vertical walls to allow a user to easily pour out the water disposed within the catch basin into a sink.

The device also contains an adjustable tray attached to the catch basin for supporting a series of utensils. The adjustable tray also comprises a set of adjustable legs rotatably attached to the catch basin, and a top plate attached to the adjustable legs, wherein this top plate has holes for supporting the silverware and utensils in an upright manner. The top plate is adjustable from a folded up position to a folded down position so that the tray can be stored easily.

One of the benefits of this invention is that it can be folded down into a storage position wherein the rack can then be stored away. To facilitate this feature, there is also a catch

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block disposed within the catch basin wherein this catch block is designed to receive a top end of the complementary rack to lock the complementary rack in place on the catch block.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Other objects and features of the present invention will become apparent from the following detailed description considered in connection with the accompanying drawings which disclose one embodiment of the present invention. It should be understood, however, that the drawings are designed for the purpose of illustration only and not as a definition of the limits of the invention.

In the drawings wherein similar reference characters denote similar elements throughout the several views:

FIG. 1A presents a perspective view of the invention in its upright position supporting plates, a pot, and silverware for drying;

FIG. 1B represents a perspective view of the invention wherein the multi-part rack is set at the same position.

FIG. 2 represents an exploded view of the rack shown in FIG. 1;

FIG. 3 shows a view of the rack shown in FIG. 1 wherein in this view, the multi-part rack is positioned in an offset manner;

FIG. 4 shows an exploded perspective view of the utensil rack according to the invention; and

FIG. 5 shows a perspective view of the previous model of the invention.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENT

FIG. 1A refers to a perspective view of the invention wherein there is shown a device 10 for drying plates, pots and silverware. There is a first part 12a of a multi-part rack 12 wherein this rack is rotatably attached to a catch basin 20. This can be better seen in FIG. 2 wherein clamping blocks 29 are used to rotatably secure multi-part rack 12 to basin 20. A second part 12B is also shown wherein this second part 12B can be folded up or down separate from first part 12A. There is also a complementary rack 14 rotatably attached to catch basin 20. Both rack 12 and complementary rack 14 contain a series of parallel extending slats 11 and 13 respectively. These parallel extending slats 11 and 13 are spaced apart to receive a series of plates or at least one pot not shown. These parallel extending bars 11 and 13 are spaced apart to allow water to drip off of pots and into catch basin 20. Water can then be drained from catch basin 20 via a drainage hole 23 positioned on a side wall of catch basin 20.

Rotatably coupled to first part 12A are substantially U-shaped support legs 16A, that support first part 12A above catch basin 20. These legs can be held in place and kept from rotating when positioned against one or more of a series of support strips 22, 24, 26, and 28 positioned within catch basin 20.

As shown in FIG. 1B rack 12 can be adjusted so that first part 12A moves separate from second part 12B wherein these parts can be matched together at a substantially similar angle. With this view, substantially U-shaped support legs